

**CITY OF MILFORD
INFORMATION ABOUT STREET TREES
FEB. 2008**

STREET TREES BENEFIT OUR COMMUNITY

Street trees benefit you and the community in many ways. They add character to our neighborhoods, cool our cities, clean our air, aid in stormwater management, add value to our property, attract wildlife, and give us aesthetic beauty. Property values are generally 5 to 20 percent higher with trees on your property. For financial reasons it makes good sense to properly care for and manage your street trees.

STREET TREE MAINTENANCE

Property owners are responsible for maintaining street trees.

- Remove limbs approximately 8' above sidewalks and 12' over streets.
- Remove dead or diseased wood.
- Trees should be properly mulched and watered.
- **Topping of street trees is prohibited.**
- It is recommended that professional ISA Certified Arborists be used for all work. Certified Arborists are accredited by the International Society of Arboriculture.

WHO OWNS THE STREET TREES AND WHO MAINTAINS STREET TREES?

Street trees are regulated due to adjacent potential safety hazards & aesthetics. However, the ownership and maintenance of street trees are *the property owner's responsibility*. Therefore property owners must obtain approval from the City to provide maintenance or to remove their street trees.

REMOVAL OF STREET TREES REQUIRES A PERMIT

Property owners are required to obtain a Street Tree permit before pruning, removing and/or planting trees in right-of-ways, or other public places. Street Tree Permit applications are available at 745 Center Street, Suite 200, Milford, Ohio 45150 during normal business hours, between 8: 30 a. m. and 4: 30 p. m., Monday through Friday.

The permit application contains questions that will help identify the tree(s) location and health. Trees are inspected to confirm the trees meet the criteria for removal or the proposed work meets the industry pruning standards. The City's role is to review, confirm conditions, and make a finding based on the information provided. Property owners are responsible for the street tree removal and stump grinding. For additional information please call 513-248-5092.

REMOVAL CRITERIA:

1. The structure of a tree is proven to be a hazard to people or property (i.e. major cracking or uprooting).
2. The tree is completely dead.
3. The tree restricts vision for safe vehicle movement and other alternatives such as effective pruning cannot be found.
4. If substantial damage is being caused to existing public utilities and alternative methods such as root pruning or root barriers will not be effective.
5. Access to a property is unreasonably restricted and effective pruning cannot be carried out.

6. The tree is substantially affected by a disease or insect infestation to the extent that it is beyond a cure.

Licensed Contractors

For your protection, the City recommends that you only hire properly licensed and insured contractors. Should anyone question your tree removal, you will have a copy of the permit to verify authorization from the City. Also please remember to Call-Before-You-Dig at 1-800-362-2764 to check for underground utilities.